

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 134**

**WHEREAS,** The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, Incorporated, for their outstanding work in protecting and providing for children and to join citizens across the state in celebrating February 10, 2009, as Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas Day; and

**WHEREAS,** Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, Incorporated, was founded with a charter membership of 13 local advocacy centers; it has grown to include 63 local centers throughout the state, which makes it the largest organization of children's advocacy centers in the nation; and

**WHEREAS,** The organization offers training programs, conducts site visits, provides a case tracking system, and offers a director mentoring program to help local centers better provide for and protect the children in their care; and

**WHEREAS,** Local advocacy centers serve over 40,000 children each year, over three-quarters of whom are involved in sexual abuse allegations; the local advocacy centers work to bring these young victims both justice and healing and to create partnerships with communities and agencies to coordinate the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases; and

**WHEREAS,** Children's Advocacy Centers bring together a variety of unique disciplines, including law enforcement, prosecution, child protective services, and mental and medical health services, to create a collaborative approach to investigating and prosecuting child abuse; this approach results

in the prompt, efficient, and comprehensive sharing of information and evidence and diminishes the often traumatic investigative process; and

**WHEREAS**, Child abuse and neglect remain pressing issues that should concern all the citizens of the state; local advocacy centers offer abused children a safe and child-friendly haven to begin their journey to justice and healing; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, Incorporated, on its dedication to improving the lives of the most vulnerable among us and extend best wishes for a memorable Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas Day; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for this exemplary organization as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Nelson, Harris, Shapiro

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 10, 2009.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate

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Member, Texas Senate

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Member, Texas Senate